

REMARKS

Claims 3-8 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 4-7 have been amended for form only.

I. Discussion of the Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) and Applicant's Statement of Substance of the Telephonic Interview with Supervisory Patent Examiner Lesley Morris and Examiner Syed Islam

Applicant thanks Supervisory Patent Examiner Lesley Morris and Examiner Syed Islam for their time in conducting the courteous and productive telephonic interviews of November 29, 2007 and December 4, 2007 regarding the rejections of claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of Strong. To summarize these conversations, Applicant's representative presented Applicant's position that Strong failed to teach or suggest at least a "portion is formed by bending a wire material to form a generally U shape and bending upper ends of the generally U shape inward or outward to be parallel to an inside or outside of the generally U shape." Applicant has attached a copy of the interview summary that indicates the Examiner's agreement that Strong fails to teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 3 and 4.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3 and 4 would not have been obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Strong, because the reference does not teach or suggest all of the features and limitations of the claims. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of independent claims 3 and 4 and dependent claims 7 and 8 at least by virtue of their dependency from claim 3.

II. Formalities

Applicant thanks the Examiner for acknowledging the claim to foreign priority and confirming receipt of a certified copy of the priority document.

Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on May 17, 2006 has been considered.

In addition, Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that the drawings filed on May 17, 2005 were accepted.

III. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejections to claims 4-7 in view of the self-explanatory amendments presented above.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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